

PROPOSALS FOR MERGER ARE REVIVED

Half as Large as U. S. Steel.
Should there be a combining Bethlehem Steel, Middletown Steel, Lukens, Youngstown Sheet and Tube, and Indiana Steel, the combination "would have a working capital amounting to \$75,000,000. Total capacity of the combined company would be between 10,000,000 and 12,000,000 tons annually. In other words, there would be created a combination about half as large as U. S. Steel in working capital and steel capacity. The merged company would have a line of products almost as diversified as U. S. Steel.

NEW YORK, Dec. 18.—Negotiations toward a merger of several large important independent steel companies, including the United Steel Companies of Indiana Harbor, are expected to be taken up again within the next six months, says the *Wall Street Journal*. The merger was well under way several months ago, but was dropped on account of the inability of the parties interested to come to an agreement as to prices at which some of the various companies would be taken over by the consolidated concern.

There was a good market for steel products at that time, enabling the various companies to obtain premiums of \$10 to \$20 or more a ton above prices asked by the United States Steel Corporation. Assessments of premiums were taken, and rates necessarily thought those of the Bethlehem Company too high.

Steel Drop May Halt Step.
The fall in steel prices to the level of the United States Steel Corporation is one development that should hasten a resumption of negotiations. Another is the change in the economic situation among the companies, notes Maxfield Philbin, son and successor to the late Maxfield Philbin, who, it is known, that the United States Steel Corporation, due to its great success, has been anxious to get rid of its independent partners and does steel at a cost far below that of the independent companies.

Should the steel corporation see fit to drop its prices \$5 to \$10 a ton below the present level certain independents would experience difficulty in meeting the competition. Whether local, where their sales markets could now turn profit. A combination of the important independent companies would consist in dropping cost of production to meet the new level, and as the consolidated companies, a better opportunity to compete with U. S. Steel for the world trade. Since the maximum price the steel corporates do not have a majority of American steel exports due to the low cost of production.

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WHERE PRESIDENT WILSON WILL LIVE



The Fuller home.

Press dispatches indicate that President Wilson is dickering for the purchase of the residence of Representative Alvin T. Fuller of Massachusetts, at 2341 Wyoming avenue, in Washington. The Fuller home is located in one of the most beautiful residential sections in Washington, near the home of R. Bolling, brother-in-law of the president. Arrangements for the sale have not yet been completed, but it is understood that the chief executive and his wife have been especially attracted to this lovely home of Representative Fuller. It has become available through the severance of Representative Fuller's connection with the house of representatives to become lieutenant governor of Massachusetts.

Spudnick starred for East Chicago in the game against Gary. The preliminary game was played between the McKinley and the Washington Freshmen resulting in a score of 17-10 in favor of the McKinley team.

All during the game the score would fluctuate and then rise in East Chicago's favor. It was a typical East Chicago-Froebel game, uncertain to the last.

East Chicago had practically her second team playing as three of her first team men, Johnston, Criswell and Penovich were ill.

The most exciting moment was as the whistle blew for the end of the game, but Froebel entitled to a free throw, but Froebel in failing to score the game was East Chicago's. Game East Chicago, Froebel.

Spudnick field goals—Plaza (2), Polk, Rikert, Free throws—Plaza (4).

Froebel field goals—Plaza (3), Polk, Rikert, Free throws—Plaza (4).

Most of the 800 cases were coal miners' cases. The board intended to readjust and harmonize assessments of every principal coal, stone, oil and cement company in the state. It added approximately 67 per cent to the stone companies' assessments and approximately 60 per cent to the coal companies' assessments.

Definite figures have been compiled in the stone companies' cases. The old assessment made by county boards of review, totaled \$1,022,588, and the new one just established is \$7,049,000.

The new assessment for coal companies is approximately \$20,000,000.

The board increased the assessment of the Bens Coal Company, in Gibson county, from \$7,000 to \$81,000.

It increased the Kosciusko county assessment of the Sandusky Cement Company from \$295,249 to \$125,250, and the Lake county assessment of the American Bridge Company from \$81,000 to \$1,362,675. Other similar changes were made.

Another of the changes was made in assessments fixed by local boards of review. In the instances of the coal, stone, cement and steel companies the local boards co-operated with the

state board by simply certifying the 1918 assessments to the state board, not attempting to fix the assessments for 1920 in view of the intention of the state board to work over the assessments in classes.

DOUGHBOYS TO HAVE MERRY XMAS

BERLIN, Dec. 18.—Doughboys of the American army of occupation on the Rhine are going to give the children of German poor families in Coblenz

DeLUXE THEATRE
TODAY
Eugene O'Brien in
"THE WONDERFUL CHANCE"

SUNDAY, MONDAY AND
TUESDAY
All-Star Cast in
"CHILD FOR SALE"

WEDNESDAY AND
THURSDAY
Elaine Hammerstein in
"THE DAUGHTER PAYS"

FRIDAY AND SATURDAY
Wanda Hawley in
"THE BELOVED VILLIAN"
Also Joe Ryan in the
Fourth Episode of
"Hidden Dangers"
Afternoon Only

Children, read the Pollyanna stories and then see
Mary Pickford in
"POLLYANNA"
Also Harold Lloyd in the
greatest comedy ever made
"High and Dizzy"

FOUR DAYS—STARTING
SUNDAY, DEC. 26


Mary Pickford

Children will be admitted for
5c mornings only.

district a Christmas this year, said a dispatch from Coblenz today. The Americans decided to raise a big sum, if possible, to buy food, clothing, candy and toys. The American garrison in Coblenz already has raised a big sum for the purpose.

AUDITORIUM

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SATURDAY, DECEMBER 18
Alice Brady in
"MARIE, LTD."

Also Episode 12 "TIGER'S TRAIL"
Serial

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 19
Frank Mayo in
"THE BRUTE BREAKER"
Also "Poor Fish."

PASTIME

TODAY
THE HEART OF A WOMAN
With All-Star Cast

BIJOU

TODAY
Eileen Percy in
"BEWARE OF THE BRIDE"
TOMORROW
Enid Markey, Louise Glau and
Dustin Farnam in
"THE IRON STRAIN"

"Where Everybody Goes"

Orpheum Theatre

HAMMOND :: INDIANA

TODAY AND SUNDAY

6 — All-Star Acts — 6

"Sweetheart Days"

A Musical Comedy with a
BEVY OF PRETTY GIRLS

Beautiful Gowns Special Scenery 10 People

STEINER & BONNELL—Comedy Bar Novelty

DE ALBERT & MARTIN—Songs and Dances

JIMMIE GREEN—Eccentric Comedian

SWIFT & DALEY—Musical Boobs

STATE COMEDY FOUR—Comedy Quartette

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At Unity Hall, Saturday Evening, Dec. 18th
COLUMBIA PHONOGRAPH TO BE GIVEN AWAY